GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:142
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2008
FEE STRUCTURE IN HIGHER EDUCATION
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up an expert committee to look into the various aspects concerning the fee structure in higher education and thus arrive at a strategy whereby the fee for higher education is neither ridiculously low nor poses a barrier in equitable access to higher education;

(b) if so, whether the Planning Commission has also recommended that fee structure should be revised to cover up to 20% of the operational costs;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by when the Government is likely to finalise the fee structure?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a): The University Grants Commission (UGC) has constituted a Committee to prepare draft Regulations for admission and fee structure in self financing Universities and Colleges.

(b)&(c): In the XI Plan document,the Planning Commission has, inter-alia, suggested that since most university students come from top 10% of the population by income levels, they would be able to pay fees amounting to 20% of the operating cost of general higher education. The fee levels should, therefore, be increased gradually in existing institutions but the new norms could be implemented in new institutions from the start.

(d): No such time frame has been set by the Government.